

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 9 as follows

Claims 1 - 8 (previously cancelled).

Claim 9 (currently amended). The method of forming a film *in situ* upon a mucosal tissue that is wet or moist, comprising:

providing a liquid composition comprising,

- 1) a volatile solvent; and
- 2) a water soluble polymer selected from the group consisting of carboxymethylcellulose, and hydroxyethyl cellulose, the water soluble polymer being capable of attaching to a hydrophobic group through covalent bonding.
- 3) a compound ~~containing a hydrophobic group~~ selected from a group consisting of octadecyl isocyanate, hydroxysuccinimide, perfluoro-1-octanesulfonyl fluoride, ~~and~~ palmitoyl chloride, and fatty acid chloride; wherein the preparation and use of the liquid composition includes the steps of modifying the water solubility of the polymer in the liquid composition by attaching ~~the~~ a hydrophobic group of the compound ~~containing the hydrophobic group~~ selected from a group consisting of octadecyl isocyanate, hydroxysuccinimide, perfluoro-1-octanesulfonyl fluoride, ~~and~~ palmitoyl chloride, and fatty acid chloride to the water soluble polymer to produce a water insoluble interaction product;

applying the liquid composition to a mucosal tissue that is wet or moist;
evaporating the solvent from the liquid composition *in situ*; and
forming a film which adheres to a mucosal tissue that is wet or moist;

Claims 10 and 14 (cancel).